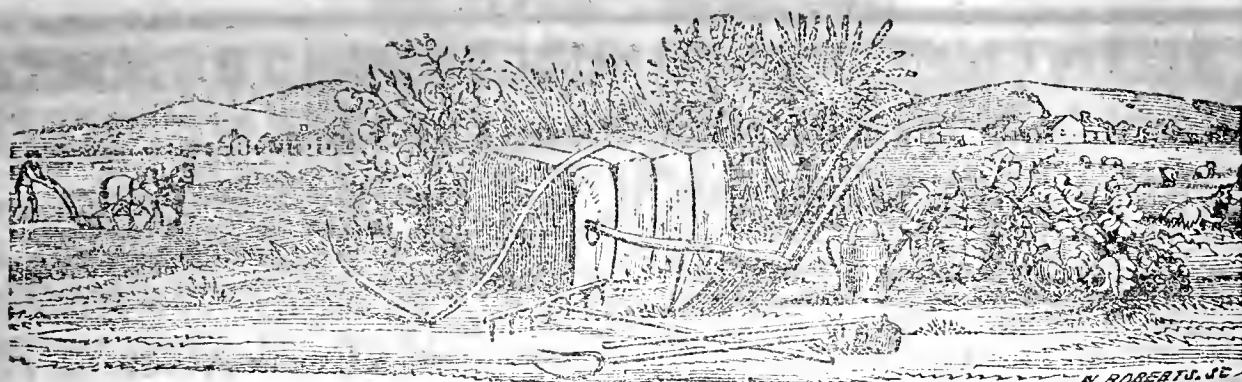


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THE FARMER AND PLANTER.

Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture, Domestic and Rural Economy.

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BY

GEORGE SEABORN,

Editor and Proprietor.

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Dr. Parker's Report relative to Corn.

The ever polite and attentive Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, Col. GAGE, has recently furnished us with Dr. Parker's report on his premium corn crop, awarded at our Fair in 1856. This report has been more than once called for by our subscribers, but not being in our possession, we were unable to give it. It has, however, just been discovered in the "rubbish," by the Secretary, in arranging some old papers, and forwarded to us for publication. We give it with great pleasure.

To the Executive Committee on Field Crops:

GENTLEMEN—As a competitor for the premium offered by the State Agricultural Society of S. C., "for the best crop of corn from two acres of ground," I herewith submit my report relative to its culture.

The ground selected was what is denominated "sand hill branch land," which, under ordi-

nary circumstances and culture, may have produced 10 or 15 bushels per acre; but had been regarded as unfit for culture by former owners, as too cold and sour.

In the first place, by covered drains, three feet below the surface, the ground was well dried; in December, 26 cart loads of manure from the cow stalls, was spread over each acre, and covered in with a large two-horse plow; and subsoiled. About the middle of April, the same quantity and quality of manure was again applied, and the land plowed with the Boatwright and subsoil plows, to the depth of 14 inches. On the 8th of May, 3 bushels of salt and the same quantity of lime were spread over each acre, and plowed and harrowed. On the 9th, the ground was furrowed off with a common shovel plow, about 3 feet apart, and the furrows sprinkled with guano and plaster.

Having procured, through the kindness of Col. Sumner, and Mr. McClannahan, of Pickens District, a beautiful specimen of corn, it was soaked in a solution of saltpere, and planted in the furrows, at 12 inches distance, covered 5 inches deep with the hoe, and the ground rolled.

On the 15th, the corn was beautifully up, and carefully dressed over. On the 18th, by long continued and heavy rains, it was overflown by the branch, and at least one-third destroyed. On the 30th, it was replanted, plowed, and dressed over with the hoe, except a part of acre No. 2, which could not be put in order, being washed into a gully; consequently, that lot fell short in land, but not in product according to the quantity of ground. Had it been a full acre, the yield would have exceeded acre No. 1, by two pecks—as by Mr. Veal's

calculation in letter annexed. On the 9th June, it was plowed with Calhoun's subsoiler, and dressed with the hoe, leaving the ground level. On the 17th, it was again plowed and dressed. On the 24th or 25th, it was laid by with a light drawing up. From the 18th May, to the 18th June, we had dry and extremely hot weather. The corn on my farm, which was under ordinary culture, was seriously injured and cut very short in product, while the two acres above alluded to, suffered comparatively but little—owing, doubtless, to its depth of culture.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. W. PARKER.

Columbia, Nov. 10th, 1856.

For the Farmer and Planter.

Chinese Sugar Cane or Millet.

MR. EDITOR:—Some of my friends charge me with being crazy upon the subject of the Chinese Sugar Cane or Millet. I acknowledge the corn, so far as to confess that, it is with me, at this time, a decided hobby; and I repeat the conviction often before expressed, that it is the greatest acquisition we have had, since the introduction of the cotton culture.

Its merits embrace the following properties: It is of easy culture; stands drought better than anything I have ever seen; is good for feeding in either its green or dry state; can be cut three times a year, will produce from fifty to seventy-five bushels of seed to the acre, and will mature two crops at that; and last, though not least, will make from two to four hundred gallons of syrup to the acre.

In a late communication to the "Carolina Times," the printer has made me say also, that it is good for *fuelling*. This, however, I do not assert as a fact (never having tried it); but presume, like the *bagasse* of the common sugar cane, it would answer very well for the purpose. But the *fuelling property* aside, you must admit, Mr. Editor, that if it embraces everything I have said, *it will do*.

That it does embrace everything I have said, the experience, during the past year, of Gov. Hammond, Mr. George Redmond and Peters, of Georgia; Capt. Henry Davis, of Ridgeway; Broomsedge (his pigs to the contrary notwithstanding); as well as myself, proves beyond a doubt.

If it be legitimate in a communication of this kind, to speak of what one proposes to do—*what can be done*, rather than what has been done—I would suggest, as the most profitable

disposition of the crop, that the first, which ripens in July or August, be ground and converted into syrup; and the second, which is most abundant, from the numerous shoots which put out at the ground, when the ripened cane is cut, be fed green or converted into forage, for winter use, by cutting and drying. If the cane be good, from the experiments already made by Mr. Peters of Georgia, at least three hundred gallons of syrup may be confidently counted on from the single acre; and of forage, from Gov. Hammond's experiments, an immense amount, perhaps, in its dry state, 8000 or 10,000 pounds. But it can be used in its green state, for feeding horses, hogs, cows, sheep, &c., in the early summer, and ground up and converted into syrup in the fall. The plan I have suggested, however, I think the best—will prove most profitable.

I have planted a lot already, which is just now coming up. If it escapes frost this fickle spring, I intend to keep accurate notes of its growth, culture, &c. I intend, also, to grind it into syrup, and, if spared by a kind Providence, shall report the results, embracing not only the cultivation, but the amount of syrup, seed, forage, &c. to the State Agricultural Society, for the benefit of my fellow planters, and hope many others will do likewise.

There is a great disposition in the public mind, especially with the old foggy farmers, to pronounce everything new, a *humbug*. But this is one thing, that I think will stand the test, and gain upon the public confidence, until it will be considered as indispensable upon the farm, as corn itself. Even our "Big Branch" friend, "Broomsedge," who is death upon all humbugs, from the *Multicaulis* down to the Georgian's mole trap, admits that it is "something worth," and recommends its cultivation. We venture to predict, having not the fear of his critical rod before our eyes, that if he will plant a few acres of this same millet, *Sparrow-grass* will have no opportunity next winter, to taunt him with the condition of a *certain bull*, seen in a *certain field*, helping himself to a *few nubbins*—small ones at that, I presume, "*considering*" the dry year.

Respectfully, yours,

W. S. LYLES.

Home, April 14th, 1857.

Hard Cement.—The following cement has been used with great success in covering terraces, lining basins, soldering stones, etc., and everywhere resists the filtration of water. It is so hard that it scratches iron. It is formed of ninety-three parts of well-burnt brick,

and seven parts of lithrage, made plastic, with linseed oil. The brick and lithrage are pulverized, the latter must always be reduced to a very fine powder; they are mixed together, and enough of linseed oil added. It is then applied in the manner of plaster, the body that is to be covered being always previously wetted with a sponge. This precaution is indispensable, otherwise the oil would filter through the body, and prevent the mastic from acquiring the desired degree of hardness. When it is extended over a large surface, it sometimes happens to have flaws in it, which must be filled up with a fresh quantity of the cement. In three or four days it becomes firm.—*Mass. Plowman.*

For the Farmer and Planter.

First Scribble.

MR. EDITOR:—Assume that an acre will yield one thousand pounds of seed cotton, and this three hundred ginned cotton, at ten cents—thirty dollars. The same acre will yield fifteen bushels of corn. One-third less labor is used upon the acre of corn. This labor is worth twenty dollars per acre. Twenty divided by fifteen, gives in whole numbers, say one dollar and thirty cents, the cost of each bushel of corn.

More horse power is required in the cultivation of the corn in contrast with that of cotton. This adds to the cost of the corn. From the above showing, when cotton brings ten cents, corn is worth one dollar and thirty cents. Cotton at fifteen cents, raises corn to two dollars per bushel; and cotton at ten cents, and corn yielding ten bushels per acre, is also worth two dollars. Each acre of corn should be made to yield at least twenty bushels to the acre.—

Maize or Indian corn is indigenous to our continent. It requires fresh cleared lands and alluvial soil. Bottom lands, when plowed deep, turn to the surface fresh soil until exhausted.

Manured soil is too thirsty for corn as diluting showers of rain are too scanty during the growing seasons. Manured lands suit winter crops as grains; and cotton following grain, gets the manure applied by the farmer. This is true, and to have success, must be fully known by every sensible planter and farmer.

To sell corn under a dollar the bushel, is a ruinous sacrifice. In succeeding paper I will attempt to show that it is profitable to raise hogs, even feeding corn to them at one dollar and thirty cents per bushel. Besides, present a safe and paying method of rearing them.—Does Anderson District raise grain and corn to sell beyond her limits? It will be an easy task to prove that she does not raise grain and corn, by half enough, to feed her citizens and beasts.

If my data, reasoning and proof, be conclusive, I know, Mr. Editor, that you will retract your assertion, which affirmed that I was certainly mistaken. One in every five of the population of Anderson District, makes a full hand field laborer. Every District has its infirm, aged, children, (*"nati consumere fruges,"*) mechanics, professional persons; besides, horses of pleasure, mice, rats, cats, dogs, thieving birds and depredating insects and the laboring brutes. So reduce those who labor to average field hands; and reduce those *who* and *which* eat, to average eaters, there will be five eaters to each full field laborer, including him or her or them. Yield to me this hypothetical data, and my assertion will be made good. The laborer of the batch of fives will eat 15 bushels of corn and wheat, and twenty-five dollars worth of bacon—equal to twenty-five bushels, at one dollar the bushel. These added—forty bushels Clothing, hat, shoes, tax, salt, medicine and tobacco—ten dollars more, or ten bushels—fifty bushels. His horse will eat fifty bushels—equal man and horse, one hundred bushels. The other four eaters will consume sixty dollars in board, &c., each—equal two hundred and forty dollars or bushels of corn. Hence, for the five and one horse, we have three hundred and forty bushels of corn. The laborer and horse can cultivate thirty acres in corn and grain, at twelve bushels the acre—equal three hundred and sixty bushels. For every five there is thus twenty bushels to spare. This will cover contingencies of sickness, partial failure of crops, &c. But Anderson is a cotton District, and applies half of her field labor to the cultivation of cotton. Hence, the deduction is, that Anderson does not raise half a supply of corn and grains. The blood stock which will be exhibited at the Fair shortly, are fed enough, or too little or else too much. Let Anderson feed half of her live stock half so well, and her abundant crop of cereals would be annihilated within three months. Twenty years ago, more rain fell during the summer season. Then there were ranges for hogs and cattle. Now the forests are cut down, swamp lands dried up, the corn cribs and granaries hold the food of live stock; else the stock breathe a short life, *burdened* with fleshless frames, whilst their humane and christian owners sell grain to buy bacon, pay accumulating debt, or furnish the means of paying ten prices for luxuries—(slow poison, by adulterations,)! Correctly speaking, in Anderson this summer, old corn had been consumed by first of August. The last year's crop should have lasted until next June. A

well-fed people have health and good tempers—good temper begets good manners—from good manners flow good laws and a sound government—health, temper, manners, laws, government, when sound, give a healthy, social progress. These—leisure, learning, the arts, sciences, philosophy and a true religion, follow. The farmer who feeds not himself, his stock and slaves well, is a stranger to independence, humanity and self-complacency. Anderson and Abbeville half feed men and stock animals—a moiety of planters sell grain and corn for demands abroad, whilst others import at sacrifice, and buy most of their bacon.

Read "five bad crops," not "fine bad crops," in first scribble. J. W. J.

P. S.—My corn crop is two-thirds housed. The yield will be 2200 bushels. My number of field hands, 15 average ones—146 bushels to the hand. Oats, 8 bushels to the hand.—Wheat, 22 bushels to the hand; and cotton will be 3 bales of 450 lbs., to the hand. I will make my bacon. J. W. J.

October 22nd, 1857.

For the Farmer and Planter.
Anderson, Pickens and Habersham.

MR. EDITOR:—I noticed in the October No. of the "Farmer and Planter," a communication over the signature of Mr. J. W. Jones, of Abbeville District, stating that there will not be more produce made in Anderson, Pickens and Habersham, than will meet the wants or consumption of the citizens of the said county and districts. This, I think, is quite an erroneous idea, and I think it should be corrected. As for Habersham, Ga., I know very little about the crops in that county. But as for Pickens and a considerable portion of the best farming sections in Anderson, I can say that, there is not a district or districts in the State, that can supersede, if compared with them in point of grain crops, with the same amount of acres planted. But we must make allowances for Mr. Jones' mistake, as I don't think it was intentional. Mr. Jones, in his tour in this section, came directly from Pendleton, we presume, to Walhalla, and from here to Jaratt's Bridge, over Tugaloo River. Well, now, every one that is at all acquainted with Pickens District, is aware that, from Pendleton to Walhalla, is the poorest land in the District. I mean that, that is close enough to the main road to be seen. After you cross Seneca River, there is but one small rivulet to be seen a distance of 16 miles. This year Pickens has

made considerably more grain than last. Well; last year Pickens fed a great portion of the inhabitants of Rabun, Ga., and Jackson, N. C.; and the prospects for a crop this year, in this country, especially Jackson N. C., is much worse than last, and I am confident that Pickens has made grain enough this year, to supply the demand from the above named counties, feed her own citizens, and spare Abbeville a few bushels if she needs it right bad. Again, I think if your correspondent will spend a few days riding up and down Three and Twenty, Six and Twenty, and the various named creeks that lie between Pendleton and Williamston, or the Saluda River, he will come to an entire different conclusion, as to the crops of Anderson District—at least, I don't think there will be many thousand bushels of corn or wheat hauled from Abbeville Dist., to supply the wants of the people of Anderson, not in 1857 or 1858.

Respectfully, &c.,

CHAS. H. A. WOODIN.

Walhalla, S. C., Oct. 24th, 1857.

Pendleton Farmers' Society.

PENDLETON FARMERS' HALL, }
October 8th, 1857. }

The Society met this day, and was called to order by the President.

Members present: R. F. Simpson, President; George Seaborn, Vice President; R. A. Maxwell, A. P. Calhoun, A. F. Lewis, J. W. Crawford, W. A. Hayne, W. R. Jones, A. C. Campbell, John S. Lorton, Rev. A. H. Cornish, John Owens, and Carver Randell.

The proceedings of previous meeting were read and approved.

The Committee to attend to the arrangements for a Picnic, was continued for the next year, and Maj. Simpson was added to it as Chairman.

Dr. O. R. Broyles having paid his arrears, was, on application, permitted to withdraw from this Society.

Col. Hayne proposed E. N. Symmes, as a member of this Society; the rules being suspended, he was unanimously received.

On motion of Mr. R. A. Maxwell, it was resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to-day, who shall revise, correct, and add to the premium list. Whereupon the President appointed Mr. R. A. Maxwell, Dr. H. C. Miller, and Col. Hayne.

The Society then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, the result of which was as follows, viz.:

Maj. GEORGE SEABORN, President,

Dr. H. C. MILLER, Vice President.

CARVER RANDELL, Sec'y & Treas.

The Society then adjourned to meet to-morrow, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

CARVER RANDELL, Sec'y & Treas.

OCTOBER 9th, 1857.

The Society met according to adjournment, and was called to order by the President.

The Secretary read the proceedings of yesterday, which were approved.

The Committee to prepare a premium list, reported in part, and on motion of Maj. Simpson, it was resolved, That this report, so far as made, be received and adopted, that said Committee have further time to complete the list, and that they report to this Society at its next meeting.

On motion of W. H. D. Gaillard, it was resolved, That two delegates from this Society be appointed by the President, at his leisure, to attend the meeting of the State Agricultural Society in November next, and that the Treasurer pay their fees thereto. The above delegates not to be life-members of the State Society.

The President then announced the Committees to examine and report on the various animals and articles offered for exhibition.

The Society then took recess until half-past 2 o'clock, P. M.

HALF-PAST 2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Society was called to order by the President.

The Committee to award premiums being called on, reported as follows, viz.:

The Committee on Stallions and Mares, report that, the Mare of Jessee Martin, is entitled to the premium, as the best brood Mare; and to the same person they award the premium for the best Colt. Two Fillies were shown—one by Dr. H. C. Miller, the other by Mr. B. F. Sloan, both of which are extra fine and of good blood—such as are seldom seen any where. Your Committee feel great hesitancy to which the premium should be given; but considering the superior carriage of Dr. Miller's, which adds most to the appearance, they are constrained to give it to him. There were no Stallions exhibited.

J. W. CRAWFORD, Chairman.

The Committee on Jacks and Jennets, report that, they award the premium to Mr. John Maxwell, for the best Jack, and also for the best Jennet.

A. F. LEWIS, Chairman.

The Committee on Bulls, Cows, Heifers and Calves, report that, they award the premium for the best thorough-bred Durham Bull, to Col. A. P. Calhoun.

Best Cow, to J. T. Latta.

" Heifer, " J. T. Latta, and for Heifer, mixed stock, " W. R. Calhoun.

H. C. MILLER, Chairman.

The Committee on Boars, Sows Rams and Ewes, report that, they award the premium for the best Boar, to A. F. Lewis; and for the best Sow, to H. C. Miller. Col. A. P. Calhoun, Dr. Jenkins, exhibited some fine stock of the Genus Sus. There were no Sheep exhibited.

J. OWENS, Chairman.

The Society, having learned from this Committee, that there were some fine Pigs exhibited, resolved, on motion of Maj. Simpson, to give a premium of one dollar for the best Pigs.

The Committee then awarded the premium to Col. A. P. Calhoun.

The Committee on Mules and Oxen, report that, they award the premium for the best yoke of Oxen, to W. R. Calhoun; and for the best Mule Colt, to J. N. Boggs.

W. L. JENKINS, Chairman.

The Committee on improved Poultry, report that, they award the premium for the best Coop of Banthams, to M. H. Calhoun; and for the best Coop of Poland and Brahmin, to W. R. Jones.

R. C. RICHEY, Chairman.

The Committee on Domestic Manufactures, products of Dairy and Vegetable Garden, Needle Work, Fruit and Flowers, Discretionary, &c., report that, they award the premiums as follows, viz.:

To Miss Pelot, for Wax Flowers,	\$2.00
" " Symmes, for Embroidery,	2.00
" " Hamilton, for Counterpanes,	50
" Mrs. Hamilton, " "	50
" Miss Resse, for a Summer Hat,	1.00
" Mrs. Cobb, for Needle Work and Basket,	1.50
" Mrs. King, Inserting,	50
" Maj. Simpson, for Syrup from Chinese Millet,	1.00
" Miss Symmes, for Blackberry Wine,	1.00
" Mrs. Mays, for Butter,	1.00
" Mrs. H. C. Miller, for Marino Soeks,	50
" Katy, servant of W. R. Jones, for Pan-talettes,	50

W. R. JONES, Chairman.

The other Committees having nothing presented for their inspection, made no reports.

Dr. H. C. Miller brought for exhibition, a few sugar-cured Hams, which were overlooked by the discretionary Committee in awarding premiums. These Hams were considered by the Society as well worthy of notice. Also, a Beet, which weighed over 10 lbs., raised by Mr. R. A. Maxwell, received the notice of the Society.

On motion of Maj. Simpson, it was resolved, That the Executive Committee settle the bills for the work done to the lower story of this building, according to their discretion.

Maj. W. R. Jones was appointed by the President, Chairman of the Executive Committee. The other members of this Committee are, Maj. Simpson, W. H. D. Gaillard, John S. Lorton, R. A. Maxwell, and Carver Randell.

On motion of Maj. Simpson, the rules were suspended, and the following gentlemen were elected members of this Society, viz.: Jessee Martin, Green Berry Whitten, J. N. Boggs, J. D. Smith, Laurens Smith, Martin McCay, P. E. Maxwell, E. A. Tate, Warren Martin, and John S. Newton.

On motion of Dr. Miller, William Simpson was also elected a member.

On motion of Maj. Jones, Maj. J. C. Miller, President of Walthalla Agricultural Society, was elected an honorary member of this Society.

On motion of Maj. Simpson, it was resolved, That the premium list, as soon as completed, be published in the Farmer and Planter.

On motion of W. H. D. Gaillard, the Society adjourned.

CARVER RANDELL, Sec'y & Treas.

The following interesting article on a most important subject to all farmers and planters, we promised our readers in our last number. Some remarks were then made on it—we, therefore, give it as we find it in the "Carolina Spartan," to which it was communicated.

Wooden Walls for Plantations.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Tradition informs us that when the heads of departments at Washington were making out their inventory of the products of domestic industry, to be assessed and reported upon in the census of 1850, their list was shown to the great Statesman, John C. Calhoun, then nearing the end of his earthly career. After casting his penetrating eye over it, he replied, with much warmth and emphasis, that they had omitted the most important item of the whole. "What is that," inquired his friend. "*Fences, fences,*" said he, "*they cost more, and are of more importance to us as an agricultural people, than any other department of domestic industry!*" No reflecting mind can for a moment doubt this fact. From the first settlements here by our fathers—saying nothing of the value of the *timber*—the labor of making the rails, hauling them to their respective destinations, building them into fences, keeping those fences in repair, and replacing them when decayed, has been immense and unremitting. And, in all coming time, as timber becomes more scarce and more costly, as the distance of hauling also increases by the retreating of the forests, the cost of keeping up good fences must increase. But few of the States have reported on this subject. I notice, however, that the Agricultural Bureau of Ohio, has set down the cost of fences in that State at "*One hundred and fifteen millions two hundred thousand dollars!*" And yet that is neither a large nor an old State. Possibly, then, it would not be unfair, in the absence of more reliable data, to take that sum as the average of the thirty-one States. If so, we have then the enormous sum of *three billions five hundred and seventy-one millions two hundred thousand dollars*, as the cost of the fences of this Union! The same authority estimates the annual repairs of the fences of Ohio at "*seven millions six hundred and eighty thousand dollars.*" The aggregate of this for the thirty-one States, at this average, would be *two hundred and thirty-eight millions eighty thousand dollars!* Thus at the present time. But how much this amount must be increased before another half century has rolled by, no human sagacity can estimate.

It is obvious, then, that the most important inquiry that can be raised respecting the industrial interests of our country is: *How can this enormous labor and expense be dispensed with, and yet full protection be secured to our crops?* That some kind of enclosures must be had, no one can doubt; for so long as Americans retain their human nature and their American nature, each will have his possessions separate and enclosed from those of his neighbor. What, then, shall those enclosures be? If hedges—what kind? And will they at once reduce the present cost of fences, and afford proper protection

to plantations? The hawthorn and the black thorn of Scotland, the Osage orange, the Cherokee rose, and various other species of shrubbery, are now attracting public attention. But while it may be well that experiments be made with all these; and while it is freely admitted that for the enclosure of small lots, and for dividing lines between fields *within other enclosures*, they may be desirable, and may serve well their purpose; yet these are the difficulties in the way of their meeting the demand of the public for a general system of hedging: They are of slow growth, and adapted only to certain climates and localities; they require much care in training and keeping them up; are not sufficiently durable; are easily broken down or cut through by depredators; and liable to be destroyed by fires.

What we want for *plantations*—which are at once large, remote often from the residence of the owner, and their thorough protection of vast importance—is not a *shrub*, but a *TREE*—a tree of rapid growth, of large size, of great durability, adapted to all climates and localities; that requires no labor of trimming, that will cast but little shade, which no beast will bark or destroy, which will, by its own height and strength perfectly protect from all depredators, whether quadruped or biped, all it encloses.—The tree above all others upon the North American continent adapted to these purposes is, in my estimation, the Black Locust—(*Pseudacacia*)—or "common locust" of the mountains. This tree will grow in any latitude, from the Everglades to the Canadas, and in any kind of soil in which common forest trees grow. It is a tree of rapid growth, most tenacious of life, and of great durability. It may be propagated with great ease, either from the seeds or from sprouts of the parent root. When young, it is defended by a short, stiff thorn, and it needs little or no trimming—running up, as it does, with a straight, wand-like stem—putting forth but few branches, and casting but a little shade.

Thus the tree—but now the *hedge*. The response of the oracle to the Athenians was: "*Defend your cities by wooden walls.*" The same plan is now proposed for plantations. Their defence, it is believed, can be best secured by the following process: The line of location being determined, let the ground for five or six feet on each side be cleared of all roots, stumps, stones, &c., and then broken by a subsoil plow, and prepared as if for potatoes or small grain. Let a furrow of moderate depth then be run along the centre of this bed thus prepared, and let the seeds of the locust be planted in a direct line with each other, about four inches apart, covering them with good surface earth, or a light compost, where the soil is unfavorable for germination. The sprouts or seedlings should be planted in the same way—care being taken that those nearly of the same size be planted together—not mixing the larger with the smaller. The deep plowing is necessary that the roots may take fast hold in the ground, and thus prevent the tree from blowing over. The planting may be done any time, when the ground is not frozen, between October and March. Let the

young shoots be cared for as should be done toward young fruit trees—supplying their places where any have failed to grow. At the end of three years they should be from five to eight feet high, and from an inch to an inch and a half in diameter at the root. Even at that age, armed as they are with a sharp thorn, they will constitute a formidable hedge. But they will grow on and on, until, in a few years, they will come solidly together! Unable to extend lengthwise of the line, they must spread *laterally*. Thus in the course of time they will form a solid wall around the whole enclosure, from one to two feet thick—too formidable to be broken down, too high to be overleaped, too thick and hard to be even chopped through without immense labor! But thus surrounded, what better protection need the planter or the orchardist desire for his crops, his fruits, or his various kinds of stock?

And then its *durability*. How long a hedge or wall of this kind would continue to live and grow, has never been fully tested. It might be for a century, for aught any man can foresee.—Considering the durability of the timber—such that no man expects to live to see a black locust stump decay—it may well be supposed that after the death of all the trees, their trunks may remain “a wall of defence” for at least half a century longer! From one to two hundred years, may, then, be set down as the probable term during which these fearless and moveless guards will maintain their positions.

It is proper, also, to add, that the locust is an ornamental tree—excelling at once in the symmetry of its structure, the delicacy of its leaves, and the beauty of its flowers. The planter of cultivated taste can readily, then, conceive how greatly hedges of this kind will adorn his grounds, stretching, as they will, along his lanes, wavering over his hills, and lowering above his lowland slopes! I add only, that when speaking on this subject, some years ago, to a gentleman then recently returned from South America, he confirmed fully the views here presented, stating that he had witnessed upon the pampas of that country examples of the same kind, formed from a tree of native growth, but the name of which he had forgotten. The wall, he said, was some eight or ten feet high—the trees still growing, and presenting a most beautiful appearance. The beneficial results to our country from the general introduction of this one improvement cannot be easily estimated. In many places we find large quantities of land thrown out, lying waste, and washing away, because the owner has no timber to fence it. But very soon all those lands might be “walled in” and made productive. Many a farmer also, though straitened as regards the quantity of land he would desire to cultivate, is afraid to clear any more woodland, lest he should exhaust his resources for timber. Relieved by the substitution of the locust wall for the common fence, he might drive his plow-share over one-half or two-thirds of his now remaining forests, and feel no solicitude about rails in the future.

But by thus taking the waste lands, and

clearing the forests, the quantity of land cultivated in many of the Southern States would soon be double what it now is! All the labor hitherto bestowed on fences might also be expended upon the improvement of soils and of crops. By this means also might the crops be again doubled. But who can estimate the importance of this to all our interests as a people—three or four times the amount of our present crops; and those of better quality than they now are! Again: *Permanency in this respect would fix our population to their native soil*. Emigration is now the bane of our old States.—See, then, what a change! Many a man, now poor and disheartened—ready also to leave his worn and timberless grounds—would at once become rich and contented. With such a treasure as those “walled fields” at home, and nothing to do but improve his lands, he would feel no disposition to emigrate. Now, too, he can settle his sons by his side. Now will he “call his lands after his own name.” His posterity also will “approve his doings,” and cluster around the paternal hearth-stone—at once the memorial of their name, and the magnetic centre of their affections!

In whatever light this subject can be viewed, it should commend itself to every man who loves his country, and desires the happiness of his fellow men. The proposed experiment can be made also at so little cost, that it is hoped no cultivator of the soil will be deterred from attempting to enclose, in that way, some part, at least, of his grounds. A nursery also from the seeds, which may be had in vast quantities in the Southern ranges of the mountains, might be planted, and young trees thus always be kept on hand—timber also be raised for various uses. Even if “the hedge,” as such, should prove an entire failure—a supposition which no sane mind can entertain—still the result of a general introduction and cultivation of one of the most valuable kinds of timber known in the world might, in the present want of our forests, be of incalculable service.

B. W.

Spartanburg C. H., S. C.

From the Northwestern Farmer.

Cheese Making---Milk---Its Properties---The various changes it undergoes in the different forms used for food.

EDS. NORTHWESTERN FARMER:—Seeing an inquiry in the last Farmer about cheese, I thought perhaps it might not be uninteresting to many of your readers, to have a statement of the composition and properties of milk, and the various changes which it undergoes in the different forms as used for food.

Milk is the fluid secreted by the lacteal vessels of the mammalia, as food for their young. But, that which to us seems to be an almost indispensable article of food in some of its forms, is the milk of the cow, about which this article treats. Although, varying with the food, health, and the circumstances under which the animal is placed, yet, its usual composition is found as

stated in Drapers' Chemistry to be as follows:

In every 1000,00 parts of milk, are	
873,00	parts of water,
30,00	" " Butter,
48,20	" " Caseine,
43,90	" " Milk Sugar,
2,31	" " Phosphate of Lime,
42	" " Magnesia,
07	" " Iron,
1,44	" " Chloride Potassium,
24	" " Chloride Sodium,
42	" " Soda in com. with Caseine.
1000,00	

The young animal has here, in combination, all the elements necessary for his growth, and sustenance until he becomes sufficiently developed to obtain and convert the more crude materials into food. The butter and milk sugar furnishing fat and the respiratory food; the Caseine, the Chlorine and albumen, to be converted into cartilage and fibrine, or flesh; the Phosphate of Lime forms the bone, Chloride of Potassium and Sodium, help to form the gastric juice, and with Iron, which forms part of the blood, these minerals help to supply their place in the animal economy.

If a portion of whey, from which all the curd is removed, be boiled to $\frac{1}{4}$ its original quantity, and placed where it will gradually cool, minute, white, hard crystals, are formed on the bottom and sides of the vessel. These crystals are sugar of milk; it is not as sweet as grape or cane sugar, and is harder, not so soluble, and is gritty between the teeth. To this element milk owes its sweet and agreeable taste, and also many of the changes which it is subject to, as will be hereafter shown. Like other sugars, it is putrescible, or, when in solution, it is brought in contact with any decaying or nitrogenous substance, as gluten of wheat, fibrine of flesh, or caseine, an acid is formed.

If caseine be added to a solution of milk sugar, it is gradually changed to lactic acid, and if this action is permitted to go on, butyric acid is formed, which we will consider in connection with butter. When milk is allowed to stand, it soon becomes sour, or the sugar thereof, is changed to lactic acid by the caseine; this change is aided by heat, hence the more readily milk sours in warm weather than in cold.

Caseine is the nitrogenous portion of milk, being similar in composition to fibrine of flesh or wheat; albumen of eggs, or lignine of the pea and bean. It is the curd of milk; and may be obtained pure by taking milk that has been thoroughly skimmed and remove the whey, wash it, then dissolve it with soda, and permit it to stand a length of time, after which, skim it, and reprecipitate it with acetic acid. It is insoluble in water, tough and elastic. This, with all nitrogenous substance, by the peculiarities of their composition, are liable to decay, or in other words, they yield readily their elements to form other compounds as is observed in the decomposition of flesh. It is slightly acid, which acidity is easily overcome by an alkali, hence it is readily dissolved in soda or potash solutions. Caseine of new milk is in a

chemical combination with potash and soda, being held in solution by the water of the milk. Upon being exposed to the atmosphere, they by its action and of the caseine, loose their alkaline, consequently their neutralizing power, leaving the caseine to act upon the sugar of milk, forming more acid until the caseine is set free from the alkali which held it in solution. These changes are facilitated by the addition of an acid of any kind, or by the action of any substance that has commenced decomposition; also, by warmth, as shown above. In making cheese, different names are given to it, according to the circumstances and conditions under which it is formed. Milk, in clotting, seems to fold together, taking within its grasp the substances with which it comes in contact. The same is true of albumen of eggs. For this property they are valuable in the cleansing of syrups, and to this cheese owes its richness, for upon clotting it envelops the butter and other substances with which it comes in contact, holding them secure in its folds as treasures for the epicure instead of permitting them to be removed in the whey. The curdling or clotting of milk in making cheese, is facilitated in various ways, as by the addition of an acid, or of sour milk, or bread undergoing decomposition. But the more usual way, is by the aid of rennet which is membrane that has commenced to undergo putrefaction. The solution thereof is slightly acid, which aids to neutralize the alkali of the milk, and helps the caseine by being in contact with every particle more fully and quickly to perform its usual office work.— After the whey has been removed, there is in some places a second effort made to remove the curd which has been by the various manipulations broken and left with the whey, and the particles that were not first curdled. This is done by the addition of acetic acid, and this doubtless is the method in Ohio, which was referred to by your correspondent. It is not necessary here to mention the different processes of cheese-making, but would say that the sugar milk is mostly left in the whey, and unless it is thoroughly pressed out and removed by drying, the caseine, true to its nature, is sure to find it, and raise a mass forthwith, much to the damage of itself as of all concerned.

Milk, when examined with a microscope, appears full of little round globules, which are the butter of milk. These globules being suspended in the milk and being specifically lighter than the other elements rise to the surface, taking with them small portions of the caseine, sugar and other substances, forming cream.— The scumming of cream is caused by the action of the caseine and sugar, forming lactic acid as above stated. The separation of these butteric globules from the other substances, is produced in two ways; first, by heating the cream at near a boiling point for a certain length of time. These globules rise to the surface, press nearer together, break through their coverings, and unite into a film of melted fat, which is readily removed upon cooling. This is the purest form in which butter is obtained, consequently it may be kept the longest without salt from becoming rancid. It has not the flavor nor the

consistence of churned butter, consequently is little known with us; yet, in many parts of Russia it is the only form used. The same substance is formed by melting churned butter and pouring off the oil, which is pure butter.

The second method is by agitating by any mechanical means, milk or cream at a temperature varying from 53° to 65° . This temperature is increased by the action, from 4° to 10° , and the covers to the globules which are supposed by some to be caseine, are broken and the fatty particles are made to unite first in grains, and finally in lumps, forming our ordinary butter. Before this takes place, the cream usually becomes sour; the reason of this may be that the acid acts on the covering of the globules aiding them to burst, while the agitation brings them all under the same influence.—The caseine, water and acid, and the other substances from the buttermilk, is sometimes coagulated and made into cheese. But in the collecting of the particles of butter, more or less of the caseine and sugar are collected with them, which by their action, causes the rancidity of butter, or the forming of buttyric acid. To remove then, the caseine, as found in the buttermilk, the butter is subjected to various processes, the usual one being the working over or the kneeding process. Some wash it in fresh water, which has this objection, that the butter is apt to absorb the impurities of water, as lime, &c. As caseine is dissolved by soda, some have recommended that it be washed in a weak solution of soda in water, &c. Certain substances have a tendency to arrest or retard the changes produced by caseine, and therefore mixed with the butter. Among those in most common use, are salt, also saltpetre and sugar. These should be of the purest kind, especially the salt should be free from lime which acts as a stimulus to decomposing agents. Their action seems to be to neutralize the caseine and acid, and to be effectual they must be thoroughly incorporated so as to act upon every particle. The atmosphere by its contact with the butter, aids the changes which caseine helps produce, by furnishing nitrogen and oxygen, thereby overcoming the substances which caused their neutralization; hence, the necessity of excluding the air from butter which it is wished to keep for any length of time.

H. C. C.

Walworth Centre, March, 1857.

From the Fairfield Herald.

Chinese Sugar Cane.

RIDGEWAY, S. C., Oct., 1857.

To the members of the Fairfield Agricultural Society.

GENTLEMEN:—As there seems to be quite an interest taken in our District, in the developments of the properties of the *Holcus Sacharatus*, *Sorgho Sucre* or "Chinese Sugar Cane."—As President of your Society, I take the privilege of addressing to you this communication, containing a synopsis of the results of a series of experiments made by me this fall, with this recently imported plant. And as it is probable

that it will for the future prove to be a useful auxiliary in the economy of a plantation, it may not be uninteresting to give such facts connected with the history of its first introduction into Europe and this country, as are to be found in a work entitled, "Sorgho and Imphee or the Sugar Canes" by H. S. Olcott. The author informs us that it was first introduced into France, in 1831, by the Count de Montigny, the then consul of France at Shanghai, China,—who sent with other seeds and plants, a few seeds under the name of "The Sugar Cane of the North of China" to the Geographical Society of Paris; of these only one seed germinated and the seed from this one plant, were distributed by the Agricultural Comice of Toulon, and the second year after, M. Valmorin, the distinguished Agriculturist of France, purchased eight hundred seed for as many francs—and from him Mr. J. D. Browne, Agent of the Patent Office, obtained the seed which were distributed throughout the United States from that Office, in 1855.

Mr. Wray, a sugar planter from Calcutta introduced, at the same time, into Europe from Natal, Africa, the seed of a plant called by the natives Imphee or sweet reed. This is represented to be a much richer sugar yielding cane than the Sorgho. Mr. Wray—as I am informed—has grown the Imphee in our State this year. Both Sorgho and Imphee yield very profitable returns of Alcohol and syrup, and under peculiar methods of treatment—patented by Mr. Wray—the juice yields a beautiful crystallized sugar. From the experiments I made last year, with the Sorgho, I was satisfied that it could be made a source of much usefulness to the planter, as a syrup yielding—and forage crop and therefore saved my seed with care, to test the practical properties of this plant.

I selected ground of different qualities and soils for trial—and as seed were scarce, I did not plant until May—at which time it was bedded up, in rows, three feet apart—the beds were opened with a narrow, short bull tongue plow. The seed dropped every 12 inches, three or four in a place and covered with a board,—a harrow would be apt to misplace the seed—when the plants could be distinctly seen in the row, they were "sided"—the earth thrown from them—and thinned, with a hoe, to one in a hill and when the plants had gotten to be 18 inches or 2 feet high, the earth was thrown back, and they were hoed a second time, and when waist high, the "middles" thrown out with a large shovel plow, one furrow, and they were "laid by," making the cultivation five furrows to the row and two hoeings.

I first tried the cane, when it was just beginning to head—made one quart of syrup to 18 quarts of juice. 2nd. When the cane had headed out, but still perfectly green—made 1 to 12. 3d. When the heads or panicles had become dark, and the seed on the upper part fully formed—made 1 to 9. 4th. When the seed on the lower part of the head or panicle, had matured i. e., firm and had entirely passed from the milk to the dough state—(the seed on the upper part of the panicle, matures some time before those on the lower part) made 1 to $6\frac{1}{2}$. I think, for

syrup purposes, the cane should be cut at this age, as the lower joints at this stage, begin to lose their sweetness. From 1-16 of an acre first years new ground, ridge land—made 5 gallons syrup—yield of syrup to juice 1 to $9\frac{1}{2}$. From $\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre—old land—red clay—that would probably made 10 or 12 bushels of corn to the acre, no manure—made 29 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons, 1 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$. From $\frac{1}{8}$ of an acre of thin gravelly grey land—manured would have made perhaps 8 bushels of corn—made 65 gallons syrup, 1 to 6. From red clay land, I got in one instance 1 to 5. From low land or branch bottom—measured by a surveyor, with compass and chain—2 A. 1 R. 25 P. expressed 2420 gallons juice made 320 $\frac{1}{2}$ gallons syrup, yield 1 to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$. The fodder stripped from the above mentioned cane—weighed, after having been exposed to the sun three days 1192 pounds to the acre. The seed after having been cut from the Peduncles (or stalks.) two weeks—measured out 46 bushels to the acre, and the seed weighed 42 pounds to the bushel. This piece of land was manured from the stable—and would have yielded as it has done for the last seven years, from 18 to 20 bushels of corn to the acre. No account was taken of seed and fodder that the upland made, but I suppose it would have made one-fourth as much.

My opinion—based on the results of these experiments—is, that the cane grown on upland is richer in saccharine matter than cane grown on bottoms—but a much greater quantity of syrup, seed and fodder can be made from bottom as the yield of cane to the space is so much greater. I have made in all, this season, 626 gal. of good thick syrup.

I treated the cold juice, with flour of lime—one teaspoonful to five gallons of juice—also with super. ear. soda—same proportions. I also treated the juice in the same way—when it had been boiled awhile; both invariably made the syrup dark. I used the white of eggs, bone black and isinglass, and I could see no beneficial effects from the use of either. The syrup made from the juice treated thus with lime or soda—would change the color of Litmus paper—nearly as much as that made from juice treated with neither—Sugar house syrup—Florida syrup, New Orleans and W. I. Molasses will change the color of Litmus paper more or less.

I therefore prefer defecating or purifying the juice by heat alone, without the aid of either alkali or albuminous substances—and the syrup thus made, is clearer than Stewart's sugar house syrup, and is the color of thick honey.

The juice from cane grown on upland at a temperature 78° Farnht. forced the saccharometer up to 15—the juice from low land cane only to 14°. The saccharometer used was one made by Bullock & Crenshaw, Philadelphia, and graduated from 0° to 70°. I have been informed by a gentleman from Florida, that the saccharometer rises to only 9° in the juice of Louisiana cane—10 in Florida, and 12 in Cuban. And the juice of the Florida cane requires 9 gallons to make one of syrup.

In making the syrup, I strained the juice through a blanket, and when in the kettle ap-

plied a gentle heat to make the scum rise so as to be skimmed off—it must not be permitted to boil until defecation or purification has been accomplished—as soon as this has been attained, boil as rapidly as possible until done. The time for removing it from the kettle, is when it is of the color of boiling sugar candy—and emits a puffing bubble—but the knowledge of the proper time for taking it off can be much more easily learnt than described, and must be acquired by experimenting with small quantities before commencing operations regularly.—The longer the juice is boiled, the thicker will be the syrup. I made from 40 to 50 gallons per day.

I used a cast iron mill, of two vertical rollers, purchased of Wm. Glaze, Palmetto Works, Columbia, for \$75, two kettles, with the capacity of 120 gallons, purchased of Messrs. Fisher & Agnew, Columbia, for \$42 each. A mill with three rollers is much better as it presses the cane much more thoroughly. I am confident I did not get more than 4-6th of the juice from the cane.

I kept three negro men and three boys, 10 or 12 years old, employed about the mill and boilers, and used two mules to work the mill. I consumed in making the 626 gallons syrup, seven cords of pine wood, and one pint of oil about the mill.

Hogs are fond of the seed, and eat the bagass or cane that has been pressed through the mill with considerable relish—mine thrive on it. Horses eat both the fodder and seed. I fed my mules and horses for a week on it, and can discover no injurious or deleterious effects therefrom.

Nothing can be gained by plucking the panicles or heads from the peduncles, or stalks, when they first appear, as Nature—to accomplish its object in making seed—when deprived of its main head, will immediately cause the plant to throw out shoots from the nodes of the upper joints, each shoot bearing a head, and if these are taken off, then the plant will throw up tillers from the roots. So nothing is gained by this operation, and the cane, in its efforts to make seed, become exhausted of its saccharine matter and is retarded in maturing.

The Chinese Sugar Cane must not be planted near any of the Sorghum family of plants, as it will very readily Hybridize. I procured some of the seed, I planted, from a neighbor, who last year had planted the Sorgho and Dourha corn in the same patch; and from plants grown from these seed, I now have specimens of a perfect cross—retaining the panicle of the Sorgho, but having the large grain of the Dourha, and the top of the peduncle, bending over like that of the Dourha. This cross, I think, is an excellent crop to grow for hogs, as it must be more prolific, than either of the others in their purity.

The seed and panicle being larger than those of the Sorgho, and the stock containing more saccharine matter than the Dourha stalk.

If the cane is cut by the middle of August, and the stubbles are left undisturbed, each will shoot up two or three tillers, which will mature (if the seasons suit) before frost.

Those of the French Agriculturist, who have experimented most with the Sorgho, assert that it does not exhaust the soil, as much as one would suppose, from the quantity of matter from it. They recommend that the bagasse be returned to the soil and the land be manured with Gypsum and Phosphatic Guano.

Hoping that this paper may be of some use to those who may wish to plant the cane and make syrup the ensuing year,

I remain, gentlemen,

Very respectfully,

Your obed't. serv't.,

HENRY C. DAVIS.

I should think the proper time for planting is late in March or early in April, so as to commence making syrup just after the crops are "laid by" and before cotton picking commences. My cane this year was not ready until about 10th September.

Indian Corn---Its Culture.

There is no country in the world possessing so wide an extent of territory in which the climate is so well adapted to the culture of Indian Corn, as the United States, nor is there any crop cultivated subject to fewer vicissitudes than this, and when we take into consideration the extent to which it is grown, and the various uses to which it is applied, we may not hesitate to regard it as the most important crop of our country, and its importance is rapidly increasing. While the increase in the production of other grain crops, in ten years, has been small, the increased quantity of Indian corn has been more than *two hundred millions* of bushels, and by the returns of the next census we shall probably learn that, in the ten years preceding, the increase has been double this amount. The returns for 1850 show that there were 31,000,000 of acres planted with Indian corn in the United States, which is 10,225,000 acres more than all the land cultivated in wheat, oats, rye, buckwheat, barley, and rice, united, each of which are reported as follows, viz: wheat 11,000,000; oats 7,500,000; rye 1,200,000; buckwheat 600,000; barley 300,000; rice 175,000 bushels.

Since the first introduction of corn into foreign countries from the United States, as an article of food for the inhabitants, its exportation has increased in a rapid ratio, and this increase will continue to augment as the people become acquainted with it as an article of bread, and with a knowledge of the proper methods of cooking it, and as improvements continue to be made in the means of preservation and shipment.

The cost of cultivating corn and the yield per acre varies much in the different States.—The average yield per acre in the United States, according to the last census, was about 25 bushels. The highest average yield in any State was 40 bushels, and that was in cold, rocky Connecticut—a result that our Western farmers would hardly expect. The average yield in the Western corn growing States, is probably about 27 bushels per acre. According to statements contained in the last Patent

Office Report, we find that some crops exceeded 150 bushels per acre. Of 35 crops of Indian corn offered in Massachusetts for premium, the average yield was 93 bushels per acre, and the average profit \$51.11 per acre. The largest crop was 135½ bushels. Nineteen crops exceeded one hundred bushels, and but two fell below seventy-five bushels per acre. Now, no one acquainted with the climate and character of the country, will for a moment suppose that these extraordinary crops are to be attributed to any advantage as to soil or climate possessed by either Connecticut or Massachusetts, but on the contrary, are far behind us in these respects. This great productiveness, then, is the result of *manuring, proper preparation of the soil and thorough tillage*. The same course of manuring and cultivation practiced there, we should not expect our Western farmers to adopt, because the cost of cultivating an acre of corn in Connecticut, although the average profit as we have stated, is upwards of \$50 an acre, would in some instances nearly balance the market value of the crop. But what we wish is to bring about a more thorough system of cultivation, which may be adopted without any material increase of cost, and which might easily be made to double the average product of the country. The importance of this improvement in the culture of this crop, is apparent from what we have stated in the introduction, in regard to the rapidly increasing demand and the advance in the price of this great American staple.

That as large crops can be grown in the West as in any part of the country, we have the proof of facts to sustain. Some premium crops in Kentucky, now on record, have reached 159 and 190 bushels per acre. These crops, however, were the result of extraordinary cultivation which every farmer could not employ, and which we would not advise, if they could, but they serve to show that a reasonable outlay in labor in cultivation, is amply rewarded.

The first great error in the culture of corn is, in the practice of growing successive crops on the same land. This has been the custom particularly in the neighborhood of distilleries, though the error is by no means confined to these localities.

No two crops of the same kind should ever be allowed to follow in succession on the same soil when it can well be avoided. The number and variety of our crops are small when compared with those cultivated in Europe, where a well established system of rotation is maintained, requiring from *four to six* and sometimes more years to complete, and which tends to a constant improvement of the soil, while in our country, with the limited number of our staple crops, it is not profitable to extend the rotation beyond a three or four years shift, and hence the greater importance of a well established rotation with these crops.

The next great error with the Western farmers is, in not fully understanding the importance of deep plowing, and a mellow surface during summer, particularly if the season promises to be a dry one. Much of our Western land has a soil the depth of which can

hardly be reached with the best plows. Such soil, for corn, should always be broken up deep. There are thousands of acres of land, naturally good, that have been under cultivation for ten, twenty, or thirty years, and have probably never been plowed more than four inches deep, and which now hardly yields half the amount that they did when first brought under cultivation. Such land, now broken up six, eight, or ten inches deep, according to the depth of the soil, with a double or trench plow, bringing to the surface portions that had never been acted on by the sun and atmosphere, and with good after-cultivation the yield might easily be increased fifty or one hundred per cent. Where the soil will not admit of plowing to this depth, let a more shallow furrow be turned, followed with the subsoil plow, so as to give the crop the benefit of better drainage, and of the mineral or organic properties that lie below the surface and that have heretofore remained beyond the reach of the roots.

The experience of several past seasons of extreme drought have taught observing farmers the importance of an improved method of cultivating this crop. Last season we saw several fields that had received proper cultivation, which yielded half or two-thirds of an average crop, while other fields with as good soil in the same vicinity, under different management, or rather for the want of management, hardly produced five bushels to the acre. To guard against the effects of drought, the object must be in view with the breaking up of the field, and in the after-culture the surface should never be allowed to become so dry after a rain as to form a crust before the plow or cultivator has broken it. This practice will insure a fair crop of corn in almost any season, however dry it may be.

This course of cultivation, if universally adopted, and which could be easily carried out by every farmer, provided no more land is put under cultivation than can be well managed, would add to the ordinary crop on good land, twenty bushels to every acre. But put the increase at the low estimate of but ten bushels per acre, it would add to the annual crop of the country 310,000,000 of bushels.—*Valley Farmer.*

To Cotton Planters.

At a meeting of a portion of the Cotton Planters of Perry County, Ga., it was agreed to submit to Cotton Planters, throughout the State, some suggestions relative to their common interest. All the great interests of commerce have their organizations. Mercantile men have their Boards of Commerce, carriers have their consultations and understandings, by which there is, among them, co-operation and harmony; so with the banks, so with cotton buyers, and so with all interests, except the interests of the Cotton Planter; hence the Cotton Planter is exposed to every one inclined to impose upon him, and while the Cotton Planters have the largest interest in the commerce of the world, that interest is left unprotected, for want of some efficient means being proposed

for its protection. Impressed with these facts, the Cotton Planters of Houston come forward and suggest what, to them, appears to be called for by the circumstances of the case. They desire to be understood as saying, that they are not wedded to the propositions they make, but are ready to adopt any other plan which promises to be more practicable and efficient.

They recommend for the present, 1st, That the planters ship their cotton to Liverpool direct; the prices in Liverpool, by last accounts, stand as follows:—

Fair Orleans....	9½d.....	about 17½c.
Mid. Orleans....	9½d.....	about 16 8-11.
Fair Mobile....	9½d.....	about 17.
Mid. Mobile....	9½d.....	about 16½.
Fair Upland....	9½d.....	about 16 8-11.
Mid. Upland....	9d.....	about 13 1-16.

And the stock on hand is reduced much lower than it usually is at this period of the year.

Planters who may feel disposed to ship to Liverpool (and thereby not only get a fair price for their cotton, but save many incidental expenses), can select some shipping house, either in Savannah or Charleston. To planters not inclined to ship their cotton to Liverpool we recommend in the present deranged condition of monetary matters, that they withhold their cotton from market and sale; for it is manifest that there are those who, taking advantage of the present state of things, seize every opportunity of purchasing, at an unfair price, whatever cotton may be offered for sale. It is well known by all who have any correct knowledge of the present crop, that it cannot exceed, if it can equal, that of the past year; the Liverpool prices, therefore, are not too high, and as the prices in the American markets in no way correspond with the Liverpool prices, the propriety of the suggestions here made becomes obvious. We suggest to planters who may ship to Liverpool to draw against their cotton as lightly as possible, in order to avoid forced sales.

And for future security, 2nd, We recommend to cotton planters throughout the cotton region, to form a general organization; by convening at some suitable place, say Macon, in Georgia, or Montgomery, in Alabama; a Cotton Planter's Convention. In this Convention, let each State have as many delegates as she has representatives in Congress. Let this Convention form auxiliary associations in each cotton growing State. Let these States and the general organizations, be composed exclusively of cotton planters. Let the Convention, for itself and the organization, form a constitution, embodying all the provisions, looking to the common interest and direct trade with foreign markets. Thus, it appears to us, that the cotton planters would be enabled to take their own business in their own hands and perform it in their own way. They would also be relieved from those fluctuations, changes and caprices, brought about, too often, by those who live upon cotton, although they never planted or raised a seed of it. Thus, we submit, the interest of cotton planters, would be protected and promoted. We therefore call upon Cotton Plan-

ters everywhere, to give this subject their early and careful attention.

We recommend, 3d. A meeting of cotton planters from each State, to be held at —, on — day of —, for the purpose of taking into consideration the subject matter of this communication, and for the other purpose of forming "The Cotton Planter's Association." And to do such other, and all other things, as by said Convention, may be deemed right and proper.

We request all editors friendly to the great interest proposed to be promoted by this communication, to give it an insertion in their respective papers, with such editorial remarks as they may deem suitable and proper.

We have left the time and place of meeting blank, because we desire that the convenience of all may be consulted, and these particulars settled after the subject has been thoroughly canvassed and discussed.

ISAAC WEST, Ch'n.

JESSE H. DAVIS, Sec'y.

[Exchange.]

DeBow's Review on the Cotton Crop.

In a long article DeBow has reviewed the last thirty-two years, making the following deduction:

Average latest spring frost, March 23.

Average earliest fall frost, October 26.

Average time between latest and earliest frost, seven months four days.

Average date of first bloom, June 5.

And for 1857 as follows:

Latest spring frost, April 23. Earliest fall frost, average October 26. Growing season, six months and three days. First bloom June 25th.

He says: Before I proceed to show what I would consider a small average or large crop for 1857, I will call attention to some facts. As a general rule, the magnitude of the crop depends upon a long or short period between the spring and fall frosts. In 1839 the spring opened on the 6th of March, seventeen days earlier than the average, and the growing season continued twelve days later than the average fall frost, giving for the growing season 8 months and one day, and a crop of 2,177,000 bales—an increase of more than 800,000 bales over the year immediately preceding. The crop of 1840, besides the influences of a short season of six months and 24 days, was diminished by an overflow in the Mississippi, and reached only 1,635,000 bales. The crop of 1842 was very large, and it will be observed that the season commenced on the 22nd of February, and continued until the 26th of October, a period of 8 months and 4 days, yielding 2,378,000 bales, an increase of more than 700,000 bales over the previous year. The crop of 1848 was an unusually short one of 1,779,000 resulting from a short growing season of six months and five days, and a general visitation of the army worm. The crop of 1849 is again a short one of 2,087,000, showing a deficit of more than 600,000 bales from the previous crop; the growing season was only six months and twenty-two days,

and there was an overflow in Red river during the summer.

The crop of 1855 was an unusually large one on a growing season of a few days short of seven months, but it will be observed that the whole season was remarkably favorable, and that at least 250,000 bales of the previous crop was received, which had been kept back by low water in the rivers in Alabama and Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas. The crop of 1856 has been variously estimated, but taking the present deficit at all the ports, and the probable amount to come forward, it will probably not exceed 2,950,000 bales—and I believe this figure has been generally adopted—I shall take it as a basis of calculation.

Taking the average of the last five crops as the basis of our calculation, without regard to the late spring frost of the present season, the result will be as follows:

1852 crop in bales	3,262,990
1853 crop in bales	2,930,090
1854 crop in bales	2,847,340
1855 crop in bales	3,587,809
1856 crop in bales, estimated.....	2,950,000

Average of above.....	3,123,600
Add 5 per cent, for increase in cultivation.....	156,200

3,279,800

But if the fall frost should take place at the averaged date, 26th October, the growing season will be only six months and three days, one month short of the average, and we can only expect a proportionally short crop,

1857. Average crop in bales.....	3,279,800
Deduct 14 per cent, for one month short of average growing season.....	559,000

Leaving for the actual only.....2,820,000

From the above, I conclude that even if the fall frost should be protracted to the 19th of November, the latest period for the thirty-two years, the growing crop cannot exceed 3,275,000 bales, which would be much short of the commercial wants of the world and if the fall frost comes at the averaged period of the 26th of October, or as often occurs before that time, the crop will not exceed 2,830,000.

Lime.—A farmer commences with the use of lime on his soil; the first season he sees an improvement; he continues its use for some two or three years, and finds but little if any perceptible change in his crops; he now cries humbug, this use of lime. Now the truth is, that in his first application, the land was rather deficient in lime only; but in not using other manure in connection, other substances in the soil were exhausted; potash or soda was now wanted, and hence the constant use of lime only for a series of years will injure and deteriorate the soil.—*New England Farmer.*

Guano.—A heaped tea-spoon full of Peruvian to one gallon of soft water for plants in a growing state. A barrel of yellow loam, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of broken charcoal, $\frac{1}{2}$ peck of guano, is a fine compost for pots or garden vegetables.—*Etc.*

The Southern Pacific Railroad.

The Southern Pacific Railroad, by which we mean a railroad en route to the Pacific through Texas from the eastern to the western boundary at El Paso is a reality. Five hundred men or more are at this moment at work upon it in Texas! We have received the first annual report of the Company, which was organized a year ago under the laws of Texas, and both from it and our Texas exchanges we learn that there is no longer a shadow of doubt as to the actual construction of the road. Ten miles it will be completed before the 15th of April, in order to secure the munificent bonus granted by the Texas Legislature to encourage the construction of railroads within the State. The nature of this bonus may be learned from the following extract from the report:

On the completion of every section of five miles the company becomes entitled to eight sections of land, or 25,600 acres. When ten are completed and ten more are graded, they are to be entitled to a loan of \$6000 per mile, or \$60,000 in all from the State, and when twenty-five miles are completed they will be entitled to sixteen sections per mile for the whole distance, that is 346,000 acres, and \$6000 per mile, say \$150,000.

The Company values the land at the lowest calculation to be worth five dollars an acre, so that the bonus granted by the State amounts at this price to \$51,200 and a loan of \$6000 in cash per mile! According to the estimate of the Chief Engineer, the road can be constructed for about \$20,000 per mile, and hence the grants of the Legislature more than double the entire cost of the road! This is the real secret of the energy that has been infused of late into the enterprise, and it is the foundation of our faith that the road will be built, and with all possible speed. The whole distance from the eastern boundary to El Paso is 783 miles, and the whole expense is put down at \$14,631,183 as the highest sum that will be required. There is no question that the lands which the Company will secure as the road progresses will become extremely valuable, and will sell for many times the sum at which they are now estimated. Of this the Company appears to be fully aware, and with the example of the Illinois Central Railroad Company before its eyes, the Southern Pacific Railroad Company will not miss the golden chance that is already within its grasp, of realizing immense wealth from the sale of the lands alone along the route of the road, to say nothing of what will be returned to the stockholders from the business of the road when completed. We know of no railroad company which has such prospects before it as this one has. By the hypothecation of the lands it can command unlimited resources to push on the work. The means it has now are ample, and they may be increased to any amount necessary. We therefore consider the construction of this road within the least practicable period no longer a matter of doubt.—Many of our readers have probably considered it a dream, something that would be realized by the next generation. They may dismiss

their doubts, however. The Pacific Railroad is at our doors. It will be the prolongation of our Opelousas Railroad, and *such* a prolongation. Do our readers realize what a prospect this road will open up to New Orleans?

Do they realize the development of the material resources of Texas, which will to a certainty result from the completion of this great enterprise? The rapid increase of population which will follow? The augmentation of the products of the soil which will take place? The towns and manufactories that will spring up along its line? The diversified pursuits among the inhabitants it will inaugurate? The wants it will create and supply? In a word, the travel and perpetually increasing business it will produce? It will bring Texas to our doors; Texas, which is large enough to make *five* States of the size of Virginia; which is large enough to make *seven* States like New York; nearly *eight* as large as Louisiana; *eleven* of the size of South Carolina, and *forty* States equal in area to Massachusetts, and which is capable of containing a population no more dense than that of Massachusetts of *forty-four* millions of people, or nearly double the entire present population of the United States! Texas, whose mountains will sustain as well as will the hills of Vermont, the merino sheep of Andalusia, and the cashmere goat of Thibet; whose South-western plains produce in all the perfection to which they will attain in Cuba, the banana and the orange, and in whose Northern limits, wheat equal to that of the Genessee valley, and every other cereal of the Northern States, will reward the labors of the husbandman; whose ranges produce cattle as numerous as those upon a "thousand hills," and within whose bosom have slept from age to age, in hitherto unbroken quiet, the minerals that but wait the magic snort of the iron steed to leap to their natural uses. Do our readers ever think where the riches, the almost boundless, natural wealth of this immense territory, as its resources go on developing and increasing illimitably will naturally *debouche*? Unless by our blindness, our lethargy, our stupidity, we actually refuse to be enriched by this magnificent stream from the giant State, and insanely turn it from us, it alone is capable of pouring such a flood of prosperity and greatness into the lap of New Orleans, as will be sufficient of itself to set it ahead of all competition.—*N. O. Commercial Bulletin.*

Negro Trading.

At Darlington Court House, on Monday last, a public meeting was holden to consider the evils of negro trading, when the following resolutions were passed:

Whereas, the offence known as negro trading, is much on the increase in this District and, as we believe, throughout the State; a fact which we attribute to the law as it now stands. Therefore, be it

Resolved, by this meeting, That in its opinion, the penalty for negro trading should be increased, and the amount of bail, required of one charged with this offence, increased also.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, the punishment of public whipping should be imposed upon all persons convicted of this offence for the second time.

Resolved, That a petition, embodying these views, be circulated throughout this District, praying the Legislature so to alter the law as to deter unprincipled persons from trading with negroes.

At Cartersville, a Vigilance Committee has been formed, whose object is the detection and punishment of negro traders. At a meeting of the Committee on Thursday, 30th ult., the following resolutions were passed:

Resolved, 1st. That if, while we are discharging our duties as members of this Society, any negro trader should become offended, and apply to any attorney or attorneys, and he or they should take any case against our Society, or against us, as individuals, we pledge ourselves never to engage such attorney or attorneys professionally, or support him or them for any office of honor, profit or trust.

Resolved, 2d. That we believe the guilt of the negro trader to be double that of the man who is guilty of petty larceny, while his punishment is not half as severe. We contend, then, that the law should disqualify any one, convicted of unlawfully trading with a slave from giving evidence in any of the legal tribunals of the State, from voting at any election, and from enjoying any of the rights or privileges of a citizen.

Resolved, 3d. That we will inform our present Senator and Representatives of our wishes, and that we will make it a test question in 1858; that we will vote for no candidate for the Legislature, who will not agree to advocate and vote for an Act putting any person, convicted of the offence of "negro trading," upon the same level with persons convicted of larceny.

The Darlington Family Friend, of Wednesday, in noticing these meetings, says:

We published to-day the proceedings of two public meetings, which have recently been held in this District. The one at the Court House, on Monday, was much larger than public meetings, held upon a sale day, generally are. All seemed willing to leave business, for a while, and take council as to the best method of ridding themselves of an alarming evil. The spirit evinced by this meeting was one of stern determination; the public mind seems rapidly preparing to resort to extreme measures in the punishment of negro traders. From what we heard on Monday, we are led to believe that, until the law provides a sufficient punishment, it will not be asked to interfere between the public and the negro trader in this District.

The proceedings of the Vigilance Society will be read with interest. The negro traders about Cartersville have roused a set of men who will give them trouble. Let us be vigilant, watchful and discreet; determined and unyielding; these rascals can be conquered.—*Mercury*.

Hints to Farmers.

Toads are the best protection of cabbage against lice. Plants when drooping are revived by a few grains of camphor. Sulphur is

valuable in preserving grapes, &c., from insects. Lard never spoils if cooked enough in frying out. In feeding corn sixty pounds ground, goes as far as one hundred pounds in the kernel. Corn meal should not be ground very fine, it injures the richness of it. Turnips of small size have double the nutritious matter that large ones have. Rats and other vermin are kept away from grain by sprinkling garlic when packing the sheaves. Money expended in drying lands by draining or otherwise, will be returned with ample interest. To cure scratches on horses, wash their legs with warm soapsuds, and then with beef brine; two applications, will cure the worst case.—*Ohio Farmer*.

Raising and preserving Tomatoes.

To many persons there is something unpleasant in the flavor of this excellent fruit. It has, however, long been used for culinary purposes in many parts of Europe; it has been of late extensively cultivated, and become a general favorite in this country. Dr. Bennett, a professor of some celebrity, considers it an invaluable article of diet, and ascribes to it very important medical properties:—

1. That the tomato is one of the most powerful aperients of the *Materia Medica*, and that in all those affections of the liver and organs where calomel is indicated it is probably the most effective and least harmful remedial agent known to the profession.

2. That a chemical extract will be obtained from it which will altogether supercede the use of calomel in the cure of disease.

3. That he has successfully treated diarrhoea with this article alone.

4. That when used as an article of diet, it is almost a sovereign remedy for dyspepsia and indigestion.

5. That persons arriving from the East or North to the South or West, should by all means make use of it as an aliment, as it would, in that event, save them the danger attendant upon those violent bilious attacks to which almost all unacclimated persons are liable.

6. That the citizens in ordinary should make use of it either raw, cooked, or in the form of a catsup, with their daily food, as it is the most healthy article in the *materia or imentaria*.—*Ex*.

From the Patriot and Mountaineer.
Chinese Sugar Cane.

To the Editor of the Patriot and Mountaineer:

I have lately finished grinding and boiling my little crop. It has turned out 250 gallons of clear, fine and well flavored syrup, and 60 bushels of seed. I had the land measured—3 and 1-16 acres—but an upper corner of the lot being poor and indifferent, I think that it may be called three acres, which makes the product 83 gallons to the acre. The blades were stripped off and saved. I regard it as about equal to our common fodder. I have made no experiments of the value of the seed, but think that the syrup will be quite an acquisition to the whole country as a cheap and healthy food.

VARDRY MCBEE.

From the Charleston Mercury.

Diseases of Poultry.

MESSERS. EDITORS: Your correspondent hopes to confer a benefit on some of your numerous readers and subscribers, by publishing his experiment and success in the cure of a disease of poultry, incident to this season of the year, as also to elicit some further information as to cause, preventive or cure.

It attacks suddenly ducks, turkeys and fowls, and, if in the night, there is little chance of treatment in time.

By some it is called cholera, by others distemper. In over four out of five cases that he has treated, he has saved the life of the bird in every case that has been taken in time, and in some where life has been almost extinct.

His treatment is as follows:

If they will eat, give them grits, saturated with lime water, mixed with a teaspoonful of powdered Cayenne pepper to every handful; if not, stuff them with this mixture; give lime water plentifully; and last, though as usual, not least, daub the top of their heads with coal tar, or tar from the gas houses.

It is important that the disease be taken hold of in time. The symptoms, when first taken; are giddiness, as if they would fall backwards, contraction of the feet, and quivering of the wings.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

The Origin of the Isabella Grape.—General J. G. Swift, of Geneva, New York, in a letter to the National Intelligencer, gives the following account of the Isabella grape:

"It originated at Goose Creek, near Charleston, South Carolina, and is a hybrid of the native fox and Burgundy of the Huguenots.—Gov. B. Smith, of North Carolina, brought the grape vine to Smithville in 1809, and Mrs. Gibbs took a cutting from Gov. Smith's garden to Brooklyn Heights, of George Gibbs, Esq., who came from Bladen county, North Carolina; Col. George Gibbs was from Newport, Rhode Island. In 1820, from the first well-grown vine in my garden, I gave cuttings to William Prince, of Flushing, who in compliment to Mrs. Swift, proposed to name the grape 'Louisa.' Mrs. Swift objected, saying Mrs. Gibbs' 'Isabella' was the more entitled to the name; and thus the name. Mr. Seaton may remember that in 1822 I gave him and Mr. Calhoun, Secretary of War, plants of the Isabella. As to the hybrid character of the plant, the two faces of the leaf show the upper to be Burgundy and the lower fox.

"The Catawba is a more delicate plant than the Isabella, and a more shy bearer. It may be judicious to cultivate the Isabella by grafting until its pulp, now leathery, may become soluble, and thus yield a drier wine than it now makes."

[We well remember the incident of 1852, referred to by our friend, General Swift. Mr. Calhoun, who was our near neighbor during the eight years of his secretaryship, planted his vine cutting in a large bed of compost in his garden, which gave it a vigor of growth that

in the course of two years covered an incredible space of ground; and from that plant, we believe, all the countless vines of the Isabella grape in this city originally sprung.—*Edits. Nat. Intell.*]

The Gad-fly in Cows.

[A few weeks ago a respected friend called at our office, and asked for information concerning a strange disease which had made its appearance, and was then doing great mischief among his cows and calves—having killed many.—From the description furnished us, of the form and progress of the disease, it appeared that the cattle had become infested with the "Wolf," like the squirrel in certain seasons of the year, and not being able to give the information necessary on the subject, we wrote to Mr. George H. Dadd, one of the most skillful and eminent Veterinary Surgeons in this country, and laid before him the case, as presented to us, asking him to furnish us such information as he thought would be beneficial. Mr. Dadd has kindly and promptly responded to our request, and furnished us the following, which, coming from one whose sole study has been the diseases of domestic animals, and their treatment, we feel confidence in commending it to our fellow citizens. We have taken the liberty of publishing the paragraph wherein Mr. Dadd speaks of his work, entitled the "Modern Horse Doctor," which was intended as private, but the many flattering notices we have seen of the work, and the great necessity exists, in this section of our country, for reliable works upon the diseases of the noble horse, must be our excuse for doing so. The work has been pronounced the best of the kind ever published:—*ED. HERALD.*]

R. M. STOKES, Esq.

Dear Sir:—Yours of the 14th ult., came to hand. I have read it with some care and have come to the conclusion, that the animals you allude to, are infested with a parasite of the bot species, resulting from the ova of the gad-fly.—These ova are deposited in the scarf skin of the animal, where, by the continued action of heat and moisture, the larva become developed—from whence, at the proper season of the year, they make their exit into the external world, in order to undergo metamorphosis.

These parasites, are supposed, and probably do, torment the infested animal; hence, in accordance with the well known laws of sympathy which prevail in the animal economy, must occasion more or less ill health. Hence we should endeavor to free the animal from them as soon as possible, by making a slight incision over the tumor, and then squeezing out the pest. The part should then be dressed with compound tincture of aloes.

Sulphur is supposed to be a specific for these parasites; consequently this agent is valuable in view of prevention, and, therefore, I recommend an occasional dose of the same, to be mixed in the food of all animals exposed to the ravages of the gad-fly. It has been noticed, that when animals are brought under the influence of the action of sulphur, their bodies emit

a peculiar odor; this is supposed to protect them from their parastical enemies.

Sulphur given internally, and used externally as a lotion, is the best treatment I know of. Tincture of lobelia, and also camphorated spirits are used as external remedies with considerable success; merely, however, in protecting the animal as above. The sulphur lotion is thus made:—Take sulphur, two oz; Alcohol and water, equal parts, one pint. Shake the mixture occasionally, and in the course of 24 hours it will be fit for use.

The best work for farmers on the treatment of the diseases of horses, is one that I have lately published, entitled the "Modern Horse Doctor,"—price one dollar. I presume it is for sale in some of your bookstores; if not, I can furnish it, prepaid, for \$1.25.

Yours with respect,

G. H. DADD, V. S.

Boston, Feb. 21st, 1857,



The Farmer and Planter.

PENDLETON, S. C.

Vol. VIII, No. 12, : : : December, 1857.

Close of the Volume.

With this number we complete the eighth volume of the *Farmer and Planter*, to which our services have been devoted with honesty and fidelity to our patrons, for so many years. It is not reasonable to conclude that in our labors we have given universal satisfaction. Yet it is a consolation to us to know that from the beginning to this time, we have retained the good will, the confidence and assistance of very many of the noblest spirits of our own and sister States. This is a consolation that better repays for our devoted services, than do our receipts in a pecuniary point of view. Many, we acknowledge, have deserted us; yet, many more, we are proud to say, are flocking to our standard, and we may say to our friends, we stand *rectus incuria*. Yet we are worn and fatigued in the service, and having recently had the misfortune to lose the counsel and services of our much esteemed publisher, we would freely yield our post to more able, and, if attainable, more devoted leaders in the good cause.—We, therefore, state to our patrons and readers, that the *Farmer and Planter* is for sale—though *not to be abandoned under any other circumstances whilst we are spared to work or wield an humble and unpretending pen in their service.*

If the paper is not disposed of *before*, we purpose commencing volume 9 on the first of January, and ask our friends to continue their favors as heretofore, for if by that time or after, it is transferred to others, they will, probably, not feel disposed to abandon a journal they have so long and devotedly sustained.

In conclusion, we again appeal to the friends and patrons of the *Farmer and Planter*, to sustain their paper by not only continuing their subscriptions, but by sending up at least *one* new subscriber, which would not only greatly encourage us to hold on, but others to take hold.

Subscribers not desiring to continue their subscriptions, will please pay up if in arrears, and notify us before the first number of the next volume is sent to them (which makes them liable for the whole volume), that we may make out a correct standing list of subscribers for volume 9.

Acknowledgements.

Our thanks are tendered to Messrs. J. BOYDEN & Son, of Salisbury, N. C., for one of their handsome turning plows, exhibited at the late Fair at Columbia. It must have been a source of pride to every farmer and planter, as it was to us, to see such a beautiful display of Southern made plows, as were exhibited by the Messrs. BOYDEN. These gentlemen took two or three premiums, we believe.

The same acknowledgements are due to Mr. G. W. COOPER, of Ogeechee, Ga., for a present of one of his excellent turning plows. Mr. C. exhibited a variety of plow moulds, from the subsoiler up to the large turning—all calculated to fit on the same stock, (iron) as occasion may require. Mr. COOPER took premiums last year on plows, and at the late Fair on a sweep.

Mr. McAFER, of Chester, will also accept our thanks for a bushel of very fine seed corn, equal, as we thought, to any exhibited. It appears from the entries of corn, that Mr. M. made 50 bushels to the acre, on 50 acres, and 200 bushels on 2 acres; and yet did not get the the premium, except on the 50 acres. Dr. PARKER took the premium on one acre, on the remarkable product of 200 bushels and 12 quarts.

Information Wanted.

At the late Fair at Columbia, one of our subscribers handed us a ten dollar bill to place to his credit, but our entry with a pencil has become so much obliterated, that we cannot make out the name satisfactorily, nor can we recollect who it was that acted so liberally. The money was received, we recollect, in HUNT'S Hotel, in the standing room, adjoining the dining room. Will the gentleman please give us his name and Post Office.

Error Corrected.

In the award of premiums at the late Fair, we have "Second best 3 year old thorough-bred Filly, JOHN T. SLOAN, Pickens." This is a mistake. It should be T. J. SLOAN, whose name appears on published account of entries. Another—"Turning Plow on Root-

er Stock, W. H. GAILLARD, Georgia." W. H. D. GAILLARD, who received the premium, lives in Pendleton, S. C.

Obituary.

It becomes our melancholy duty to inform the readers of the Farmer and Planter, that SAMUEL WILDES LEWIS, its late Publisher, is no more. On the first day of November, 1857, our long and well-tried devoted friend, took his departure to that "undiscovered country, from whose bourne no traveller returns." Having raised him from early boyhood, we knew him better than others. He was a generous, noble hearted boy, a true and unflinching friend, and an honest and honorable man, a devoted husband and a kind and indulgent father. But he has gone, as we humbly trust, to take his seat in the "Grand Lodge above, where the supreme Architect of the Universe presides," in that "House not made with hands eternal in the Heavens."

The State Fair.

In despite of croakers and false prophets, the Second Annual Fair of the State Society was no failure, but has passed off, and to the great delight of every well wisher of the cause who had the pleasure to witness it, is acknowledged to have surpassed, in almost every particular, our former exhibition, which was so highly gratifying to all who attended it. We know that first exhibitions are usually more impressive than those that succeed, and for this reason some may differ with us, but having been present at both Fairs, we are decidedly of the opinion that in almost every department, the second much surpassed the first exhibition. If any exceptions are admissible, we can allow them to apply only to the show of hogs, sheep and goats, which, we believe, were not so numerous as at last year's exhibition. And in the agricultural machinery line, such as horse-powers, threshers and wheat fans, there was probably a falling off; but in nothing else, especially in articles offered for premiums, was there, in our judgement, any deficiency.

Having been placed on Committees for special purposes, we were unable to examine the exhibition generally, and as critically as we might, and otherwise should have done, and do think, with all due respect to the Executive Committee, that if any person was entitled to be relieved from Committee duty, we were one of them, but we complain not. We think that every member of the Society should willingly, and without regard to his own ease and comfort, perform whatever reasonable duty is assigned him by the Executive Committee, in carrying out the objects of the Society. But we much regret to have to say, that if all the complaints we heard during the Fair, by Chairmen of Committees, of not being able to get their Committees together, or to get them to work, were well founded, and we know they were in more than one case, that there seems to be a different disposition prevailing with many members of our Society. Where Committee men are not personally acquainted, which is not unfrequently the case with more or less of each

Committee, we know it is a difficult matter to get all together, even where all are willing to work, and more so if they are not. Our Committees are read out on the first night of the Fair, at which time probably many members are absent, for many do not attend the first days meeting. And hence such do not know, on their arrival, to what Committee they belong; and as men may not care to get into what they may consider a laborious or unpleasant business, such are not likely to put themselves to much trouble to find out, and place themselves in their proper position.

Now, to obviate this difficulty in some degree at least, as we think, it would be best to publish the list of judges or Committees at least, the last time (usually just before the meeting of the Society,) of publishing the premium list. This would enable every member to know on what Committee he had been placed, and who was his Chairman. Then, on the first meeting of the Society, if the Committees were called, and vacancies supplied (by delegates from the District Society, who are usually, we believe, not placed on any Committee, from the fact that the Executive Committee do not, in many instances, know who they are at the time of making up the Committees, even as late as it is now done), we are forced to believe that we should act much more in concert than we do under our present arrangement. But we have verbally suggested this course to one or two of the members of our Executive Committee, who differed with us in opinion. "It had been tried in Georgia," or somewhere else, "and did not succeed," or work well. We know this course is pursued in some of the States, and we have seen no objections to it, nor can there be any, we think, with an honest set of judges. If anything is to be feared, it is prejudice and favoritism, which we know it is difficult to divest ones self of. But knowing the course we now pursue, does not work well, we merely throw out the above as suggestive to the members and Executive Committee, of the necessity of some amendment.

The Committee on Plowing Match---Error Corrected.

We were informed before and after leaving Columbia, that some reflections were cast upon our judgement as Chairman of the Committee above named, in awarding premiums on plows at the Fair. Now we desire to say to all such, that our Committee awarded no premium on plows. It was not the business of the Committee on "Plowing Match," to award such premiums, but only to award to the best plowman, and hence it was our business to conduct the Plowing Match under the eye of the Committee on "Southern Farming Implements," a part of which Committee, with the venerable Chairman at its head, were present at the Plowing Match, after having made a strict and laborious examination of all the plows on exhibition, and then made their awards, which were reserved, as we were informed by the Chairman, until they had seen such as were tried (for all were not that was entered, for want of time and efficient teams,) perform their work. Which awards, we doubt not, were honestly and without partiality or prejudice, made as

their judgment dictated, though we should have differed with them in some instances, but in very few.

Under the head, "Plowing Match," there were two premiums only offered, as follows: "For the best plowing by slave, \$5. For best plowing by negro boy, 13 to 16 years old, \$5." There was no premium offered to *white* plowman, and no negro boy was brought on the field; and hence the only premium awarded by *our Committee*, was to a slave belonging to Capt. FRANK. HAMPTON, (Mr. COOPER's and Mr. HAMPTON's plowman,) which we considered the best *black* plowman. But had a premium been offered for the best plowman, white or black, the Committee would, without any hesitation, have given it to Mr. HENDERSON, who, we believe, is the manager of Dr. PARKER, who held the plow entered by Col. SUMMER, (ANDERSON's) and to whom our Committee will here take occasion to return thanks for his polite attention and assistance whilst conducting the match.

The Committee on "*Plowing Match*" had other duties assigned them under the head of "Miscellaneous Articles," on which see report of the Committee, elsewhere.

New Advertisements.

Our readers wanting Fruit Trees, or any thing in the Nursery line, will please turn to our advertising sheet, and see under the head, "*Fruits, Flowers and Shrubs for the South*," that friend REDMOND is prepared to furnish all they may desire to procure. If not fully satisfied with this notice, send for his Catalogue, and call from that to your hearts content.

And Again.—Since writing the above notice, we have received from Messrs. PETERS, HARDEN & Co., of "*Downing Nursery*," Atlanta, Ga., their handsomely gotten up Catalogue, for 1857 and 1858, with a liberal advertisement, which will be found in place.—Surely with such facilities for getting fine and reliable fruit, flowers, &c., &c., as our advertising columns now point out, not one of our readers can have any excuse for not having a good orchard, a good flower garden, a good vineyard, or a good hedge.

Castings, &c., in Columbia.—We also, with pleasure, direct the attention of all wanting anything in their line, to the advertisement of Messrs. J. ALEXANDER & Co. At the late Fair, to this firm was awarded a premium for the "best and largest exhibition of Iron Castings." We, in passing round, closely examined the castings of Messrs. A. & Co., and do not recollect ever to have seen any that pleased us more.

We clip the following notice from the South Carolinian, and recommend to our friends, if they want a full and correct account of the proceedings of the Legislature at a cheap rate, to send their names forth with if you have not already done so:

"OUR SESSION PAPER.—As usual, we will send the *Daily South Carolinian* for the session to subscribers, postage free, for one dollar. We have made arrangements for furnishing a daily report of the business of the Legislature, and of all matters of interest at the Capital."

Report.

The Committee on the Plowing Match, to which other special duties were assigned under the head of "Miscellaneous Articles," which were "enumerated" in their book, but not in the published premium list, performed the duty assigned them. Under the main head, Plowing Match, will be found some remarks by the Editor. Under the head, "Miscellaneous Articles," as furnished them, they found the following, viz.: Sewing Machine, (Singer's) by Messrs. SETPHEN & Co., Columbia. Sewing Machine, by J. ROPPE, Columbia. Model Cottage, by A. DUVAL, Ga. Sugar Cane, by G. W. COOPER, Ga. Suction Force Pump, by KELLOGG & DOGE, Charleston. Locomotive Alarm Bell, do. Clasps for Machine Biting, do. Moulding Machine, do. Southern made Case of Musical Instruments, by W. RAMSAY, Columbia. Model Comb Bee Hive, by P. J. MAHAN, Philadelphia. Volcanic Repeating Firearms, by W. C. STANTON, New Haven, Conn. There were some other articles, which the Committee examined by request of the exhibitors, and reported on in their book; but being afterwards informed they had been assigned to another Committee, who had examined them, they were struck out.

The Committee are restrained by the space allowed them, from making separate and more comprehensive reports on the merits of the above enumerated articles. Suffice it to say that, the different articles of machinery were much admired, as evincing great skill and ingenuity in being brought to their advanced state of perfection for the purposes intended. They are highly creditable, and deserving much more attention than they have received. The Sugar Cane, by Mr. COOPER, seemed to the Committee, though unacquainted with the article, to be a superior specimen. The Model Cottage, made of rush or straw, was a very neat and ingeniously put together structure.—The Case of Musical Instruments, by our friend RAMSAY, of Columbia, we could only view through a glass (not "darkly," however), was a beautiful display of the perfection to which the manufacture has arrived. And last, though not least, the Moveable Comb Bee Hive, with its civilized and decently educated inmates, was the great attraction and admiration of every one. The Committee were highly entertained with the short history of the bee and its *modus operandi* in the formation of combs, the making of queens (one of which was exhibited), drones, &c., &c., which their time allowed them to listen to from Mr. MAHAN, the exhibitor.

For all the above articles premiums were recommended by the Committee, who had not the power to award, but they are not certain that they were allowed by the proper authority.

The following, from the premium list under the head of "Articles not enumerated," was brought to the notice of the Committee by several gentlemen exhibitors, as giving authority to them to award premiums, and does in so many words do so. We give it:

"ARTICLES NOT ENUMERATED.—As many as

ticles of merit in the various departments of labor, art, &c., which are not specially provided for in the Premium List, may be presented for exhibition and premiums, a Committee on Miscellaneous Articles will be appointed to examine and report upon, and award premiums on all such articles worthy of premium."

But again, we have under the head, "Instructions to the judges, &c.," "In no case, can the judges award a *special or discretionary* premium."

Here we are clearly prohibited, and in accordance with this clause, the articles to which our Committee recommended premiums, (which they were not prohibited from doing) were not honored with them! And yet according to the above clause, and for the further reason, that the articles examined by the Committee, were "enumerated" in their book, the Committee respectfully submit to the Executive Committee, whether or not they shall be given.

The Chairman will here take occasion to tender his thanks to the several gentlemen who, at his request, assisted him in the absence of most of the original Committee.

GEORGE SEABORN, Chairman.

For the Farmer and Planter.

The Late Fair--Its Committees, &c.

MR. EDITOR:—Fault-finding is one of the games of human nature, and if played with any degree of generosity, becomes nothing more nor less than justifiable criticism. With this spirit, I would beg space in your columns for a few faults preferred against the administration of our late Fair, and call especial attention of the Executive and Plowing Committees to my remarks, though crude they be.

In the first place, the Society published a premium list "embracing nearly every thing valuable in agricultural, mechanical industry, art, science and taste," and purchased premiums to the amount of \$3800. In awarding prizes, "discretionary premiums" were positively forbidden, while the judges were required "in all cases, to withhold premiums where the article or animal was not worthy." Let us see how these published requisitions have been complied with. On exhibition at the Fair, were some splendid specimens of book binding, contributed by Mr. Stokes. This department of mechanics, came under no special Committee, and consequently those superior tests of "Mechanical Industry," would have been ignored, but for the suggestion of one of the Committee on "So. Ca. Manufactures, other than Domestic," who succeeded in securing Mr. S. a premium for his skillful labors. Contrast this exhibition of "Mechanical Industry," with that goat skin vest; a garment by no means common in the country, but so novel to the examining Committee as to deserve a "*special or discretionary premium!*" The carnality of the age will probably weaken the contrast, as the goat skin was prepared to clothe the body, while the calf only enveloped food for the mind.

In another house on the Fair Grounds, there lay upon a counter some few well-wrought axes, showing superior workmanship, and near

by two bushels of beautiful turnips. These were all overlooked, while their neighbors were awarded premiums, viz: That big squash, that bushel of miniature yams, those little Irish potatoes, and that display of stringy carrots and parsnips. The man who made fine turnips this fall, should be treated for his success.

But now let us look a little to that plowing. Who was the Committee on plowing? We saw but one man who seemed to know anything about it. You, Mr. Editor, I believe were allowed to test the width and depth of the furrow, but everybody else was driven beyond the fence, not *to the fence*, but clean over, and had to look through the cracks. Well, how did this Committee dispose of its premiums? They just awarded a premium to about 300 pounds of cast iron, in the shape of a plow, which would, in one season, wear out one band, and kill at least two teams. This was not all. One, Mr. Milton, exhibited a plow, which must really be a stolen patern of the plow used by the old Prophet, Elisha, in olden times, when Elijah came upon him plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him; for nothing short of such a team could pull it, I am sure; and yet it got a premium, because right there on the ground, two big mules could not pull it fifteen feet, without stopping to blow. The Committee doubtless concluded the owner of it used oxen.

The next thing done, was to award premiums to Messrs. Boyden & Son, for the best one-horse plow, and Mr. —, for the best "Rooter Stock" turning plow; the first was a mule-killer in stiff land, and the second a pretty well shaped stock, painted blue, with a half-heart-shaped twister upon it. But were either of them tried on the ground? No. Then, what constituted them best?

But, Mr. Editor, as the speaker is anxious to conclude, always says, "time would fail," were I to enumerate all the objections to the administration of our late Fair. So, wishing the *Farmer and Planter*, and the State Agricultural Fair, abundant success, I am,

Yours, truly,

PERKINS, JR.

Poverty Place, Nov. 16th, 1857.

REMARKS ON THE ABOVE.—By special request of the writer, we crowd in the above article for the early consideration of those for whom it was written. For ourself and our Committee, we have no reply to make, having superseded "Perkins, Jr.," in some editorial remarks on the business and duties of our Committee, on the occasion alluded to. We must say, however, that it is news to us, that *we* were the *only* man (except the plowman, of course) allowed to go inside of the fence. We know there was some attempts by members of the Police, (as we supposed) by direction of a gentleman present, to keep the crowd on the opposite side of the fence; but we do not think the attempt was altogether successful, at least for any length of time, and we are quite sure that there were the members of *two* Committees (one on the Plowing Match, and the other on Farming Implements) on the ground all the time.—ED. F. & P.

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